

Please replace the paragraph (Abstract) beginning at page 27, line 1 with the following rewritten version:

**Abstract**

A high pressure chamber ~~(23)~~ in a casing ~~(20)~~ communicates at the bottom thereof with a liquid retainer ~~(31)~~. A communication pipe ~~(34)~~ is connected at one end thereof to the upper end of the liquid retainer ~~(31)~~ and connected at the other end thereof to an intake pipe ~~(28)~~. A gas container ~~(35)~~ and first and second solenoid valves ~~(36, 37)~~ are provided in the communication pipe ~~(34)~~. When the first solenoid valve ~~(36)~~ is closed and the second solenoid valve ~~(37)~~ is opened, the gas container ~~(35)~~ communicates with the intake pipe ~~(28)~~ to reduce the pressure in the gas container ~~(35)~~. Thereafter, when the first solenoid valve ~~(36)~~ is opened and the second solenoid valve ~~(37)~~ is closed, the gas container ~~(35)~~ communicates with the liquid retainer ~~(31)~~ to reduce the pressure in the liquid retainer ~~(31)~~. Then, the pressure of lubricant oil in the liquid retainer ~~(31)~~ is lowered to gasify a refrigerant dissolving in the lubricant oil. As a result, lubrication malfunction caused due to lowering of the viscosity of the lubricant oil by dissolution of the refrigerant therein is avoided and the reliability of the hermetic compressor is enhanced.